

Legislative Bulletin.....November 17, 2005

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H.J.Res. 72 – Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2006

H.J.Res. 72 — Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2006 (Lewis, R-CA)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Thursday, November 17, 2005, subject to a rule.

Summary: H.J.Res. 72 would authorize continued funding with respect to the remaining appropriations bills, through December 17, 2005. This continued funding would be made pursuant to Public Law 109-77, the last continuing resolution that is set to expire on November 18th. P.L. 109-77 authorized funding at the lower of three levels: current law (FY05), House-passed, or Senate-passed. Defense appropriations is also funded at this rate, but as a result of emergency supplementals provided in FY05, the lower level *is* the House-passed amount which over the course of a full fiscal year, equals a 3.5% increase over last year (although 1% less than the President requested).

For more information on P.L. 109-77 which also extended a number of provisions set to expire with the fiscal year (which would be similarly extended through December 17th under H.J.Res. 72), please see: <http://johnshadegg.house.gov/rsc/LB%209-29-05.pdf>.

Additional Background: To date, five FY06 appropriations bills have been signed into law. Two additional conference reports await the President's signature, and four others remain to be cleared by Congress, including: Transportation, Treasury, HUD (H.R. 3058), Military Quality of Life (H.R. 2528), Labor-HHS (H.R. 3010), and Defense (H.R. 2863). Without this continuing resolution, the portions of the federal government that are funded by the conference reports not yet signed into law could not operate after November 18th.

Cost to Taxpayers: H.J.Res. 72 would not authorize any new expenditure above the baseline. In fact, since it funds government programs at the lower of current law, House-passed or Senate-passed levels, CBO estimates the resolution would *save money over the course of a full year*.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

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